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periments on machine or hand-sort punch cards and that at least a few are listing the species of plants or animals tested by means of a code on these punch cards. In order to facilitate the exchange of information between various laboratories, it would seem to be highly desirable for these research groups to use a uniform taxonomy coding system. If the need or usefulness of uniformity is confirmed by sufficient biologists, a start on the formation of a standardized code should be made as soon as possible so that the conversion from individual codes can be accomplished with a minimum of effort.

The interested persons who have been informally discussing the project do not want to set plans in motion for the actual codification unless there is a real or potential need for it. Our immediate problem, therefore, is to determine what areas of biology could be usefully served by a standard taxonomic code. We are, therefore, requesting that those who have worked out or adopted a system for coding taxonomic entities, or who may be conducting work which might benefit from such codification, submit their opinions concerning a standardized biological taxonomy code.

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Reviews

INSECTS AS HUMAN FOOD

By F. S. BODENHEIMER. Dr. W. Junk, Publishers. The Hague, 1951. 352 pp. Dutch Guilders 10.

The entomological literature is full of many articles and references to the use of insects as human food, but never before have these notes been brought together in one volume. This book, written in the English language by the well known Biologist, Dr. F. S. Bodenheimer, is a thorough survey of the world's literature on the practice and importance of insects as an item of diet among the people of the world, both present day and the past. The subtitle "A chapter of the ecology of man" aptly describes the contents. There are many references to beetles as well as many other forms of insect life. Most readers will be surprised to learn of the importance and extent of entomophagy even today. The lack of a subject index is regretted, but the extensive bibliography will prove useful to those who wish to pursue this subject further.

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CURRENT LITERATURE¹

General

Cobos, A. 1953. Especies nuevas de Coleopteros de la provincia de Almeria (Spain). Archivos del Instituto de Aclimatacion, vol. 1, pp. 127-134; **Essig, E. O.** 1953. Edwin Cooper Van Dyke (in memoriam). Pan-Pac. Ent., vol. 29(2), pp. 73-88, 1 pl.; **Hatch, M. H.** 1953. The beetles of the Pacific North-

¹Compiled this month by Dr. William F. Barr and Dr. J. Gordon Edwards.